
SETT OF WARP FOR HEAVY YARNS

The existing tables or formulas for setting the warp are very often of little use to the modern craftsman because the yarns we are using now are much heavier than the ones used in traditional weaving. The table which we published in MW No.8 is for medium counts of yarn. It does not give good results for grists below No.5. The table which we publish this time is really the right hand lower corner of the former table enlarged several times.

We must repeat here that there is no such thing as the "best" sett of warp for any given yarn and weave. The sett depends first of all on the kind of fabric we want to produce. The closer the sett, the firmer and stiffer the fabric. The more open it is - the softer and weaker the cloth. We cannot go too far in either direction however.

The curves given in the table are for a rather open fabric. The number of ends per inch may be therefore increased safely by as much as 25%, if firmer texture is required. One curve shows the sett for tabby, and one for twill. But since there are so many other weaves here are a few suggestions as to the corresponding setts:

The same as tabby: all weaves with solid tabby background such as huckaback, spot, bronson. Swivel may be set a little closer.

The same as twill: basket, waffle, solid lace without tabby.

Pattern weaves with tabby binder (overshot, crackle, summer-and-winter) - about 10% more open than tabby.

Higher twills whether turned or not, of the type: 1:3, 1:4 etc., satins, drasks - the sett must be closer than the one given for the twill. The higher the number of the twill or satin - the closer the sett.

Warp face fabrics (rep, etc) - sett about twice as close as for tabby.

Weft face fabrics - sett more open than for tabby, but it depends on the yarn used for weft. For instance satinnet with the same yarn for warp and weft should have a sett about 25% more open than tabby.

Double fabrics have the sett exactly twice as close as the sett for a single fabric of the same kind.

Now, how to use the table? First we decide on the yarn and the weave. Then we find the number of the yarn on the horizontal line at the bottom of the table. From this point we draw an imaginary vertical line until it meets the curve which corresponds to our yarn and weave. From the point of intersection of this line with the curve we draw another imaginary line, but horizontal this time, toward the right hand border of the table and find there the sett of warp.

For instance if we weave place mats in linen No.1 $\frac{1}{2}$, and we decide on tabby, then in the table we shall find the answer on curve No.4. No.1 $\frac{1}{2}$ is half way between No.1 and 2. From this point we look up to the curve No.4, and from the curve - to the right. We find our answer: 10 ends per inch.

When we work with yarns without number, we must find out first how many yards per pound has our yarn and then divide it by 840 in case of cotton, and by 300 in case of linen, ramie etc.

